

1904, art. 35, sec. 51. 1888, art. 35, sec. 46. 1860, art. 37, sec. 45.  
1785, ch. 46, sec. 6.

**51.** Nothing contained in this article shall preclude any debtor or defendant from controverting any proof offered in pursuance of the provisions thereof by any testimony which is legal and admissible by the rules of the common law, or prevent any creditor or plaintiff from giving any evidence admissible by the rules of the common law in support of his claim; or pursuing any legal mode other than herein prescribed to prove and establish his claim or demand.

**Public Statutes and Office Copies and Official Certificates.**

*Ibid.* sec. 52. 1888, art. 35, sec. 47. 1860, art. 37, sec. 46.  
1829, ch. 219.

**52.** The private laws and resolutions published by the authority of this State may be read in evidence from the printed statute book.

*Ibid.* sec. 53. 1888, art. 35, sec. 48. 1860, art. 37, sec. 47. 1845, ch. 89.  
1849, ch. 38. 1898, ch. 342.

**53.** The public or private statutes of the United States or of any State or territory of the United States or of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland may be read in evidence from any printed volume purporting to contain the statutes of the said United States, State or territory of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; and the said printed volume shall in all cases be received as evidence of said statutes without any further authentication or proof thereof.

Although the common or unwritten law of another state may be proved as a fact by witnesses acquainted therewith, the statute law of another state can only be proven as provided in this section, or by an authenticated copy of the law. *Zimmerman v. Helser*, 32 Md. 278.

Our courts do not take judicial notice of the laws of another state, and the mere reading of such law to the court in argument, is not sufficient to make it evidence; this section must be complied with. *Mandru v. Ashby*, 108 Md. 695.

Where the book, from which a statute of another state is proposed to be read, purports to contain the statutes of such state and to have been "published for the state of Ohio and distributed to its officers under the act of the general assembly, passed March 16, 1860," such volume is strictly within the meaning of this section, and therefore admissible in evidence. *Harryman v. Roberts*, 52 Md. 76.

Cited but not construed in *Eastwood v. Kennedy*, 44 Md. 570; *Fouke v. Fleming*, 13 Md. 413.

*Ibid.* sec. 54. 1888, art. 35, sec. 49. 1860, art. 37, sec. 48.  
1852, ch. 42.

**54.** The ordinances and resolutions of the mayor and city council of Baltimore may be read in evidence from the printed volumes thereof published by the authority of said corporation, and a copy of the plot of the city of Baltimore from the record thereof in the mayor's office or from the record thereof in the office of the clerk of the superior court of said city, duly certified under seal by the keeper of such records, respectively, shall be evidence.